

NEWS RELEASE

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KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL LAUNCHES CONSULTATION ON ITS BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR NEXT YEAR

Kettering Town Council, newly created in April 2021, is launching its first ever consultation on its budget and precept for the next financial year.

After a careful start with the lowest precept of any Town or Parish Council in North Northamptonshire, the Town Council is now looking to make a difference to the town, with a range of projects which will help boost the economy, improve the environment, and improve local facilities as well as support groups and residents with events, grant aid and advice.

The Council's ambitious list of projects includes

- New permanent public toilet facilities in the town centre
- A community lottery to raise money for local good causes
- £47,500 for events and speciality markets throughout the year
- £25,000 for new grant programmes for local groups and organisations
- A £20,000 fund to renew or provide new facilities - from litter bins to bus shelters to play equipment and anything in between
- £3000 for the planting of new trees
- £7000 to support community resilience – helping recover from covid, supporting the levelling up agenda, becoming more sustainable

The Council's plans will mean a precept on the Council Tax of £19.53 for someone in an average, Band D, property – about 37.5p a week. This will still be one of the lowest precepts in North Northamptonshire or in England.

The Council is now looking for feedback on its ideas, and is asking for people's views by 16th January, ahead of it making a final decision on the 19th January 2022.

The Council has also published its first Corporate Plan, which sets out what it is about as a Council and how it hopes to improve Kettering for its residents. This too is up for consultation.

Town Clerk, Martin Hammond, said of the plan

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“This plan guides the budget, and the action plan within it will be the main way in which the Town Council monitors its progress during 2022-23. It sets out our main policies and priorities for the year ahead and beyond.

We invite anyone to go on to our website, - www.ketteringtowncouncil.gov.uk

have a look at both the budget and plan and let us know what you think.”

Cllr Lloyd Bunday, Leader of the Town Council said

“I am excited to offer up this budget for people’s views. It reflects what people have been telling councillors they want to see for some time, and what we heard about on the doorstep during the election in May. All political groups on the Council fully support this ambitious and affordable budget which I hope will make a visible difference to our town during 2022”

Note to editors

The Council’s precept will be collected by North Northamptonshire Council as part of its annual council tax demand

The Council tax precept for 2021/22 was set for the Town Council by the former Kettering Borough Council in December 2020